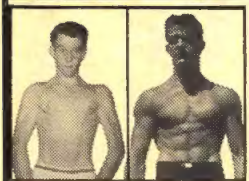
NICK FURY, AGENT OF...
S.H.I.E.L.D.
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢
2
JULY
IND.
STRANKO

Tired of Being 'SKINNY'?

DRINK ON POUNDS OF WEIGHT FAST—THE FUN WAY!

GAINS OF UP TO A·POUND·A·DAY PROVEN BY THOUSANDS

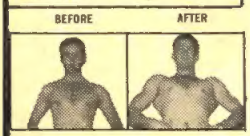
IT'S DELICIOUS! IT'S WILD! The new taste-sensation "CRASH-WEIGHT GAINING PLAN" developed by Joe Weider, "Trainer of Champions", "Architect of Beauty" helps you drink on pounds... UP TO A POUND A DAY easily and enjoyably while you rest... relax... watch TV... sleep. Men, women and children... see measurable gains instantly and say goodbye to your skinny, undesirable string-bean body... NOW!



BEFORE AFTER

HERE'S LIVING PROOF IT WORKS—FAST

Used with amazing results by tens of thousands of men, women and children for more than 7 years! Now, you too can take this guaranteed way to build up your caloric intake for fast and substantial weight gains!



BEFORE AFTER

GAINS 18 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

The "before" photo shows how Larry Chamiel looked without the added weight he needed so badly. The "after" photo shows Larry 14 days after he started the **Crash-Weight Plan** and gained 18 pounds. He writes: "What more could a guy ask for? All I did was add 4 glasses of Crash Weight Formula #7 to my regular meals, follow Joe Weider's Plan and I gained a tremendous 18 pounds in two weeks!"

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

GAINS 14 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

James Parker of Ft. Worth, Texas writes: "It's Fantastic—I went from 158 to 172 pounds in 14 days. Gained 14 pounds in 14 days and added 2 inches to my chest. I'm more than satisfied!"

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

DO-IT-YOUR-SELF GAIN-A-POUND-A-DAY KIT!

This is a 1-day supply of **Crash-Weight,** chock full of weight-gaining nutrients that can smash the weight-gaining barrier!

You want to gain a pound a day? Half a pound a day? Maybe you just want to add a few pounds here and there? You want it easily . . . enjoyably . . . without stuffing yourself and counting calories?

NOW YOU CAN

It's simply wild... AND IT WORKS!

You too can follow this amazing Crash-Weight Formula #7 Plan and drink on as much as a pound a day . . . Skinny people are undesirable . . . they look sickly. Say goodbye to your string-bean looks with this sensational new plan—NOW!

No more bloating yourself with rich, heavy foods to force-feed calories into your system. Drink 4 delicious glasses of natural-organic Crash-Weight Formula #7 daily in addition to your regular meals. Follow Crash Weight Plan as directed in the free booklet and you can drink on (in delicious, milk-shake tasting form) mixed with usual household food ingredients, up to 3500 calories along with your regular calorie intake. Then, take it easy . . . while you relax, snooze or watch TV . . . this calorie-packed weight-training drink and the Formula #7 Plan does all the work, piling on weight for you.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE COUPON

JOE WEIDER Dept. 83-68K4
531-32nd Street
Union City, N. J. 07087

Dear Joe:
I want to join the WEIGHT-GAINABLES. Enclosed find $..... for your **Crash Weight Formula #7 Plan** which I have checked below. I understand your Money Back Guarantee applies only if I order my Plan through this coupon!

Check one of the Plans below:

☐ 7-Day Supply of Crash Weight #7 Plan ..... $ 7.50

☐ 14-Day Supply of Crash Weight #7 Plan $14.98

Check flavor desired: ☐ Chocolate ☐ Vanilla

NAME ..... AGE .....

ADDRESS .....

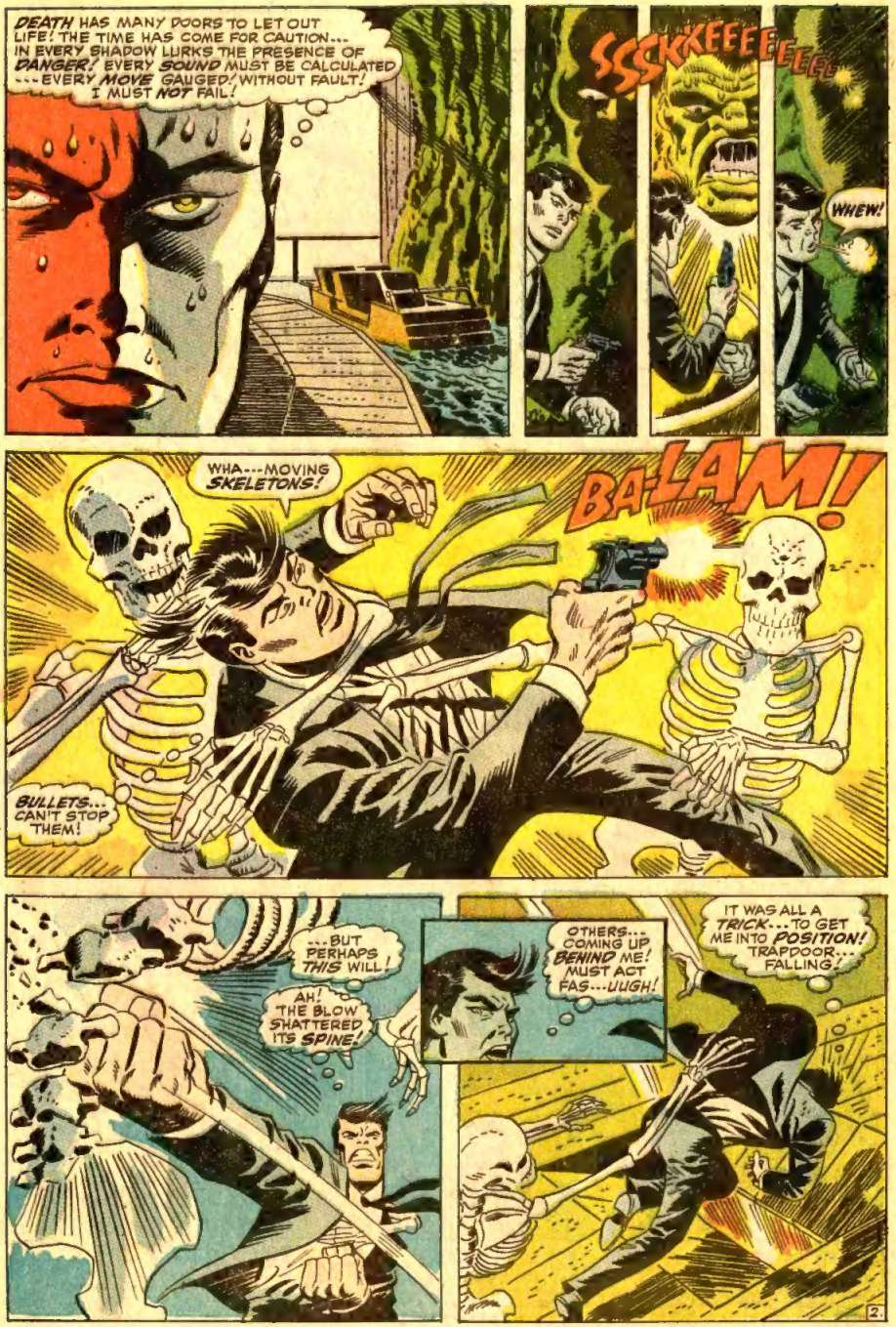
CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP .....

(Please print clearly)

IT'S NEW! IT'S HERE! **JOIN THE WEIGHT GAINABLES! DRINK ON POUNDS-FAST! SAFELY!**

JOURNEY INTO FEAR WITH THIS TOWERING EPIC OF UNIVERSAL LIFE AND DEATH AS TOLD BY... STAN LEE, EDITOR • JIM STERANKO, WRITER-ILLUSTRATOR • FRANK GIACOIA, INKER • SAM ROSEN, LETTERER

NICK FURY, Agent of SHIELD is published by OLYMPIA PUBLICATIONS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. Published monthly. Copyright ©1968 by Olympia Publications, Inc. Marvel Comics Group, all rights reserved, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 2, July, 1968 issue. Price 12¢ per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by The Eastern Color Printing Co., Waterbury 20, Conn. Subscription rate $1.75 and $2.25 Canada for 12 issues including postage. Foreign subscriptions $3.25.


DEATH HAS MANY DOORS TO LET OUT LIFE! THE TIME HAS COME FOR CAUTION... IN EVERY SHADOW LURKS THE PRESENCE OF DANGER! EVERY SOUND MUST BE CALCULATED ---EVERY MOVE GAUGED! WITHOUT FAULT! I MUST NOT FAIL!
SSSKKEEEEEEEE
WHEW!
WHA---MOVING SKELETONS!
BA-LAM!
BULLETS... CAN'T STOP THEM!
---BUT PERHAPS THIS WILL!
AH! THE BLOW SHATTERED ITS SPINE!
OTHERS... COMING UP BEHIND ME! MUST ACT FAS...UUGH!
IT WAS ALL A TRICK---TO GET ME INTO POSITION! TRAPDOOR... FALLING!
2

IF THE SPIRIT OF JIMMY WOO SHOULD YET LIVE TO SEE THE DAWN!
CAN'T SURVIVE A FALL THIS LONG.. MUST CATCH ON... UNGGH!.. GOT IT...
BUT THE BEAM... CRACKING UNDER MY WEIGHT... HAVE TO TRY FOR THAT BOARDED-UP SECTION...
I'M BACK ON THE FUN HOUSE TRACK AGAIN...
...BUT IT'S ANOTHER TRAP.. GAS FUMES POURING FROM THOSE FLOOR VENTS!
THEY HAVE SEEN THAT I CANNOT TURN BACK NOW!
I MUST GO ON... NO MATTER WHAT THE PRICE!
EVEN IF FAILURE SHOULD BRING THE SPECTRE OF DEATH, I SHALL NOT AVOID MY SWORN DUTY!
THEN... MY ONLY MEANS OF ESCAPE FROM THE TOXIC GAS IS...
...UNDERWATER!
SO, AGAIN I WEAR THE FACE OF THE FOOL... AND HAVE FALLEN PREY TO STILL ANOTHER TRAP!
I HAVE COME TOO FAR TO FORFEIT MY HONOR NOW!
IF ONLY I CAN SUBDUE THE BEAST WITH MY TIE...
3.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education

Shamed by Your English?

You can soon speak and write like a college graduate if you let me help you for 15 minutes a day.

If you've ever been shamed by a mistake in English, maybe I can save you from years of disappointment.

I have met countless numbers of intelligent men and women who are being held back in their jobs and social lives, often without knowing it, because they cannot express themselves fully and easily.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

If people are not impressed by the way you speak and write—and if you're honest enough with yourself to admit it—you have already taken the first big step to success.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO

You can master good English *without going back to school.* Over the years I have helped thousands of men and women *right in their own homes.*

I can help you, too, if you will give 15 minutes a day to the C. I. Method. My answers to the following questions explain why you need a command of good English and how easily you can *do* something about getting ahead.

Question: *What is so important about my ability to speak and write?*

Answer: People judge you by the way you speak and write, both in business and in social life.

Question: *What does a "command of good English" mean?*

Answer: It means you can express yourself clearly and easily without fear of embarrassment or making mistakes.

Question: *Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?*

Answer: Yes! Words are actually "tools of thought." The more you learn about words and how to use them to form and express your ideas, the better your *thinking* becomes.

Question: *Wouldn't I have to go back to school for a command of good English?*

Answer: No, not any more. You can gain the ability to speak and write like a college graduate right in your own home in only 15 minutes each day.

Question: *How do I know your method works?*

Answer: There are thousands of letters in my files, testimonials from people in all walks of life who have used the proved Career Institute Method to achieve amazing results. If you send in the coupon below, I will share some of these letters with you.

Question: *How can I find out more about the Career Institute Method?*

Answer: I will gladly mail a free 32-page booklet to you. Just send a postcard or fill out and mail the coupon.

DON BOLANDER, Dept. 208-26
Career Institute, 555 E. Lange Street, Mundelein, Ill. 60060

Please mail me a free copy of your 32-page booklet, "How to Gain a Command of Good English."

Name_____

Street_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

MOMENTS LATER...
IT IS DONE... BUT... CAN I GO ON? MY LUNGS BURN WITH THE FIRE OF THE DRAGON'S BREATH!
MY BODY... ACHING LIKE THE BONES OF THE ANCIENT STONE CUTTER!
TO GO ON WOULD BE USELESS!

WAIT! THAT SOUND ...IS IT POSSIBLE... OR HAS INSANITY TAKEN REFUGE IN MY MIND?
THE WALLS... MOVING... CLOSING IN ON ME!

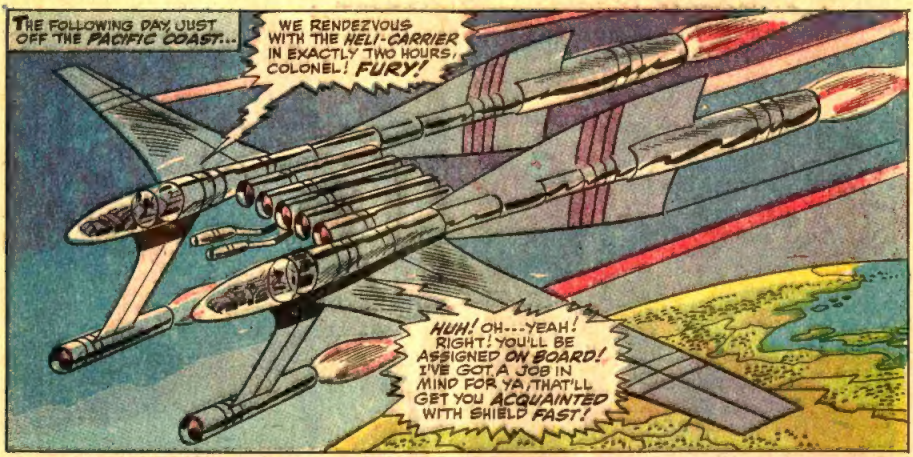
NO WAY OUT... EXCEPT...

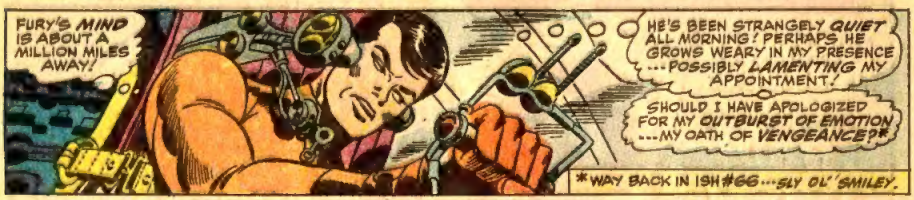
AHHH! AS I SUSPECTED... THE MAZE HAS NO END ...ONLY A BEGINNING... JUST BEYOND THE FINAL WALL... LIKE A HUGE ORIENTAL PUZZLE... BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE EASTERN MIND TO EASILY GRASP!
YES... THERE THEY ARE... AHEAD OF ME... WAITING... AS I KNEW THEY WOULD!

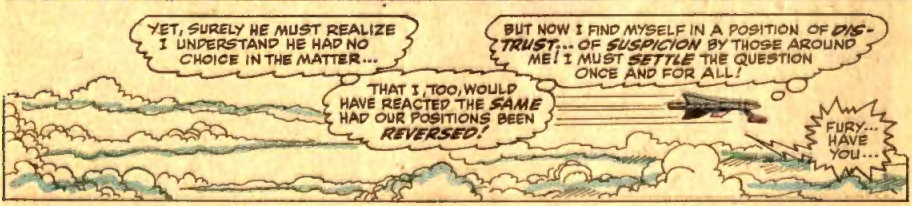
HEY... THAT SOUNDS LIKE HIM, NICK! HE MUSTA MADE IT! HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YER DOIN'! ME... I WOULDN'T TRUST HIM... HE SWORE HE'D GET YA ONCE... RIGHT?
YEAH, I KNOW! BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS SAYIN'! THAT SUWAN WAS ONLY AN AUTOMATON!
SURE... ONLY YOU DIDN'T KNOW IT WHEN YOU LET HER DIE! I NEVER EVEN SEEN HIM SMILE!
COOL IT! HERE HE COMES!

HEY! LOOKS LIKE YOU MADE IT IN ONE PIECE! WELCOME TO THE CLUB, PAL!
I TRUST THAT IN MY ENTHUSIASM I DIDN'T DAMAGE YOUR TRAINING APPARATUS BEYOND REPAIR!
DON'T SWEAT IT! WHEN QUARTERMAIN WENT THRU HIS FINAL TEST THERE WASN'T A STICK LEFT STANDING!
NICE GOIN'... NOW TAKE THE NIGHT OFF AN' RELAX! WE GOT A PLANE TO CATCH TOMORROW! PUT IT THERE, MISTER! YER WORKIN FOR SHIELD NOW!

ABOUT TWO HOURS LATER, AT FURY'S NEW YORK PAD...
5


THE FOLLOWING DAY, JUST OFF THE PACIFIC COAST...
WE RENDEZVOUS WITH THE HELI-CARRIER IN EXACTLY TWO HOURS, COLONEL! FURY!
HUH! OH---YEAH! RIGHT! YOU'LL BE ASSIGNED ON BOARD! I'VE GOT A JOB IN MIND FOR YA, THAT'LL GET YOU ACQUAINTED WITH SHIELD FAST!


FURY'S MIND IS ABOUT A MILLION MILES AWAY!
HE'S BEEN STRANGELY QUIET ALL MORNING! PERHAPS HE GROWS WEARY IN MY PRESENCE ---POSSIBLY LAMENTING MY APPOINTMENT!
SHOULD I HAVE APOLOGIZED FOR MY OUTBURST OF EMOTION ---MY OATH OF VENGEANCE?*
*WAY BACK IN ISH #66---SLY OL' SMILEY.


YET, SURELY HE MUST REALIZE I UNDERSTAND HE HAD NO CHOICE IN THE MATTER...
BUT NOW I FIND MYSELF IN A POSITION OF DIS-TRUST... OF SUSPICION BY THOSE AROUND ME! I MUST SETTLE THE QUESTION ONCE AND FOR ALL!
THAT I, TOO, WOULD HAVE REACTED THE SAME HAD OUR POSITIONS BEEN REVERSED!
FURY... HAVE YOU...

BUT, BEFORE THE FORMER F.B.I. MAN CAN VOICE HIS TENTATIVE EXPLANATION...
HANG ON TO THE CONTROLS, MISTER!
MY CATHODE-SCOPE IS PICKIN' UP SOME BAD... HEY!!
THE SHIP'S HITTIN' SOME KINDA FORCE ...ROCKIN' IT OFF COURSE... CAN'T HOLD IT...!!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MARVEL SUPER-HERO T-SHIRTS

only $1.60 EA.

PLUS 25¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING

IT'S BRAND NEW! A CATACLYSMIC... CAPTAIN MARVEL T-SHIRT!

WRITE SIZE IN COUPON BELOW
YOUTH- MEDIUM, LARGE
ADULT- SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE

MARVEL SWEAT SHIRTS

WE'VE ONLY GOT A LIMITED SUPPLY, FRANTIC ONES, SO RUSH YOUR ORDER IN NOW!

$3.15 EA.

CHARACTERS	SIZE	QUANTITY	CHARACTERS	SIZE	QUANTITY
FANTASTIC FOUR			SPIDER-MAN		
THE HULK			IRON MAN		
AVENGERS			THOR		
CAPT. MARVEL					

TOTAL $

PLEASE SEND ____ *THING* SWEAT-SHIRTS
PLEASE SEND ____ *HULK* SWEAT-SHIRTS

CHECK SIZE
THING ☐ YOUTH ☐ ADULT
HULK ☐ YOUTH ☐ ADULT

TOTAL $

PLEASE ADD 25¢ PER ITEM FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING. PRINT CAREFULLY. ADD 20¢ EXTRA FOR EACH CANADIAN AND EUROPEAN ORDER. ALLOW 3 TO 4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE - SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY TO: MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. AJ 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

The MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY ANNOUNCES A NIFTY NEW MEMBERSHIP KIT!

JUST FEAST YOUR BABY BLUES ON WHAT ALL NEW MEMBERS ARE GONNA GET...

AN ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP PIN...AN OFFICIAL RECORDING OF THE MMMS SONG...SWINGIN' STICKERS OF EIGHT MARVEL HEROES...A NUTTY NEW NOTE PAD...A MAGNILOQUENT MARVEL MINI-BOOK... A MIND-SNAPPING MARVEL PENCIL... A MAJESTIC MMMS CERTIFICATE, AND YOUR OWN MUNIFICENT MEMBERSHIP CARD.

NOW, THIS IS THE PART THAT'LL REALLY KNOCK YOU FOR A LOOP! YOU GET ALL THESE GROOVY GOODIES FOR THE PALTRY SUM OF... **$1.00**

OKAY, MADMEN...HERE'S MY HARD-EARNED **$1.00** WHICH I'M SENDING YOU AT: M.M.M.S., MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C., N.Y., 10022
MAKE ME A MAGNILOQUENT MERRY MARCHER AND RUSH ME MY KRAZY KIT!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PLEASE: SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY!

NOTE TO PRESENT MEMBERS: WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOU FRANTIC ONES! WE'RE OFFERING *YOU* THE NEW KIT AT THE SPECIAL PRICE OF **75¢**! (OUR OWN COST!) SO JUST SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER WITH THE COUPON TO KEEP YOURSELF MARCHING IN STEP!

BASEBALL FANS ARE CRAZY

about this true-to-life BASEBALL GAME

• PITCHING • HITTING • FIELDING • RUNNING • MANAGING

Easy to play, real thrilling, exciting baseball with STRAT-O-MATIC. 400 big league players perform according to their actual abilities and your managerial decisions.

You, the manager, not only decide lineups, insert pinch-hitters, pinch-runners, and relief pitchers, play your infield "in or deep," and make defensive changes at any time, but also call for the sacrifice, steal, hit-and-run, and squeeze-play. All strategy moves are possible with STRAT-O-MATIC.

You have real control over all 400 major league players — who actually hit, pitch, field, and run according to their baseball abilities.

Each player has truly individual qualities. He slumps and goes into hot streaks, performs heroics and commits errors. With STRAT-O-MATIC all qualities of a ballplayer are realistic.

If you like baseball, you'll love to play STRAT-O-MATIC

Get the entire story. Mail coupon for a colorful FREE BROCHURE containing complete information and FREE SAMPLES today! Offer limited. Don't delay. Write today while supply lasts!

FANS RAVE

Here are just a few of the hundreds of letters we receive every week from baseball fans aged 8 to 80, from coast to coast!

STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL is the best baseball game I ever have had. Kids swamp over the back porch to play this game! Boy, it is a lot of fun! Thank you for making such a wonderful game. —*P. C., Attleboro, Mass.*

Just like real baseball. It is fun to play. —*G. V., Cincinnati, O.*

As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games. —*F. T., Manila, P.I.*

Although it's fantastically realistic, it's also very simple to play. —*A. F., Los Angeles, Calif.*

I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life. —*C. H., Lanett, Ala.*

The best baseball game. It is realistic and yet not too difficult to play. —*P. M., Port Huron, Mich.*

Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer. —*N. S., Los Angeles, Calif.*

Boys are waiting in line to play the game! —*A. H., Chicago, Ill.*

It has given me more pleasure than any other game. —*S. E., Rossville, Ind.*

The most exciting and fun game ever. —*L.S., Boston, Mass.*

It is so stupendous, words can't explain. —*J. R., Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Best on the market. —*J. E., Miami, Fla.*

Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season. —*S. C., Temple City, Calif.*

STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., Inc., Box 541, Great Neck, N. Y. 11020

MAIL COUPON NOW FOR FREE Sample Offer!

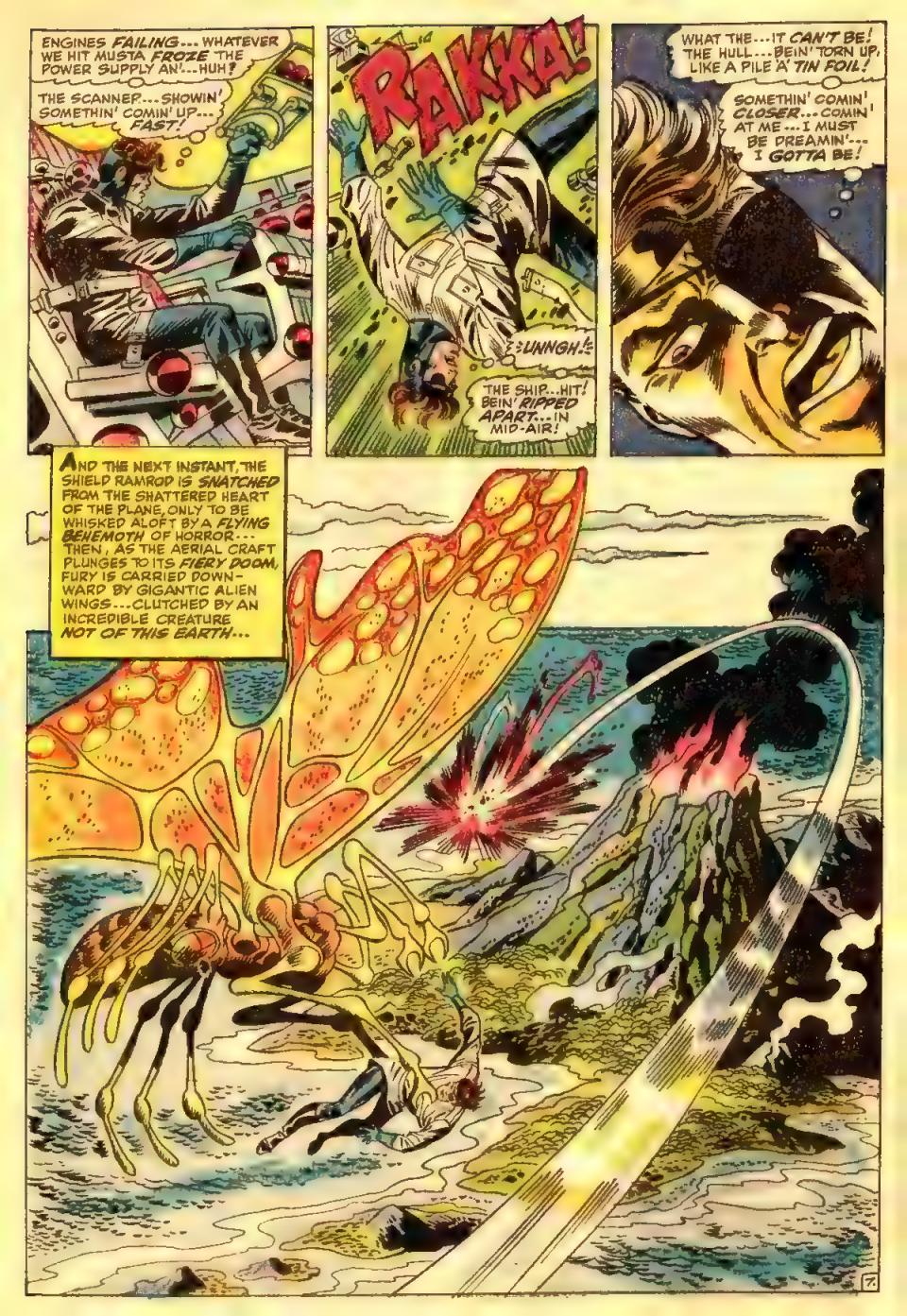
STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., Inc., Dept. 424, Box 541, Great Neck, N.Y. 11020

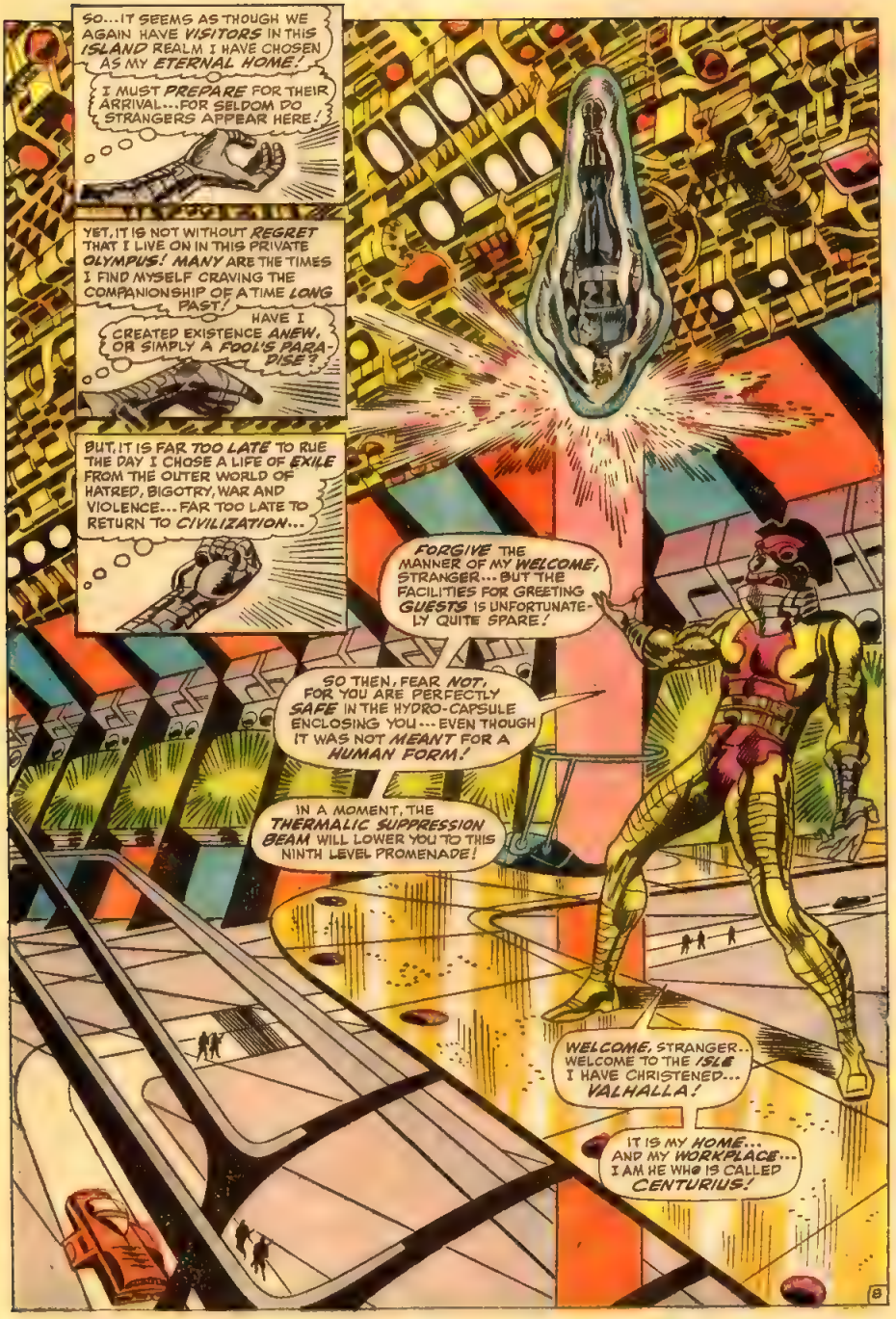
Send exciting FREE STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball Game offer and samples via 3rd class mail. (For speedy 1st class delivery, send 12¢ in coin or stamps.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____


ENGINES FAILING... WHATEVER WE HIT MUSTA FROZE THE POWER SUPPLY AN'...HUH?
THE SCANNER... SHOWIN' SOMETHIN' COMIN' UP... FAST!
RAKKA!
UNNGH!
THE SHIP...HIT! BEIN' RIPPED APART... IN MID-AIR!
WHAT THE...IT CAN'T BE! THE HULL...BEIN' TORN UP, LIKE A PILE A' TIN FOIL!
SOMETHIN' COMIN', CLOSER...COMIN' AT ME...I MUST BE DREAMIN'... I GOTTA BE!
AND THE NEXT INSTANT, THE SHIELD RAMROD IS SNATCHED FROM THE SHATTERED HEART OF THE PLANE, ONLY TO BE WHISKED ALOFT BY A FLYING BEHEMOTH OF HORROR... THEN, AS THE AERIAL CRAFT PLUNGES TO ITS FIERY DOOM, FURY IS CARRIED DOWN-WARD BY GIGANTIC ALIEN WINGS...CLUTCHED BY AN INCREDIBLE CREATURE NOT OF THIS EARTH...


SO...IT SEEMS AS THOUGH WE AGAIN HAVE VISITORS IN THIS ISLAND REALM I HAVE CHOSEN AS MY ETERNAL HOME!
I MUST PREPARE FOR THEIR ARRIVAL...FOR SELDOM DO STRANGERS APPEAR HERE!
YET, IT IS NOT WITHOUT REGRET THAT I LIVE ON IN THIS PRIVATE OLYMPUS! MANY ARE THE TIMES I FIND MYSELF CRAVING THE COMPANIONSHIP OF A TIME LONG PAST!
HAVE I CREATED EXISTENCE ANEW, OR SIMPLY A FOOL'S PARADISE?
BUT, IT IS FAR TOO LATE TO RUE THE DAY I CHOSE A LIFE OF EXILE FROM THE OUTER WORLD OF HATRED, BIGOTRY, WAR AND VIOLENCE... FAR TOO LATE TO RETURN TO CIVILIZATION...
FORGIVE THE MANNER OF MY WELCOME, STRANGER... BUT THE FACILITIES FOR GREETING GUESTS IS UNFORTUNATELY QUITE SPARE!
SO THEN, FEAR NOT, FOR YOU ARE PERFECTLY SAFE IN THE HYDRO-CAPSULE ENCLOSING YOU... EVEN THOUGH IT WAS NOT MEANT FOR A HUMAN FORM!
IN A MOMENT, THE THERMALIC SUPPRESSION BEAM WILL LOWER YOU TO THIS NINTH LEVEL PROMENADE!
WELCOME, STRANGER.. WELCOME TO THE ISLE I HAVE CHRISTENED... VALHALLA!
IT IS MY HOME... AND MY WORKPLACE... I AM HE WHO IS CALLED CENTURIUS!
8

ARMS-MEN... ASSIST THE STRANGER!
BUT TAKE CARE... BE AS GENTLE AS POSSIBLE!
WE'LL HAVE TO RELIEVE YOU OF THE WEAPON, MY FRIEND... VALHALLA HAS NO PLACE FOR THEM!
THOSE THE ARMS-MEN CARRY ARE SIMPLY FOR PROTECTION AGAINST... WELL.. LET'S JUST SAY... DANGEROUS EXPERIMENTATION!
NOW THEN, WHOM DO WE HAVE THE PLEASURE OF ADDRESSING?
FURY... NICK FURY! BUT WHAT IN SAM HILL'S GOIN' ON HERE? FIRST, I GOTTA DITCH MY PLANE, THEN SOME KIND'A FLYIN' MONSTROSITY BRINGS ME HERE, AN' NOW A BUNCH'A FREAKS GRAB MY HARDWARE! HOW 'BOUT IT, MISTER?
IN A MOMENT, MISTER FURY... IN A MOMENT... NO NEED TO...
LOOK, FELLA... I'M LOSIN' MY PATIENCE... AN' MORE'N THAT! I JUST LOST A CO-PILOT SOMEWHERE OUT IN THE OCEAN!
BESIDES, I'D LIKE TO SEE WHO I'M TALKIN' TO... UNLESS YA GOT SOMETHIN' TA HIDE BEHIND, THAT GET-UP!
NOT AT ALL... AND IF I COULD SUGGEST YOU TURN AROUND... YOU'LL FIND A SURPRISE!
AS FOR THIS OUTFIT... MERELY A NECESSARY PRECAUTION IN MY TESTS... NOTHING MORE!
HE'S RIGHT, FURY... AND I'M AS SURPRISED TO BE HERE AS YOU ARE TO BEHOLD ME!
HUH? JIMMY WOO!
YES... AS SOON AS I HIT THE WATER, I WAS GRIPPED BY SOMETHING UNDERWATER, TAKEN TO THE ISLAND, AND TOSSED INTO THAT ELEVATOR! --- THAT'S IT!
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE STILL ANOTHER SHIELD TEST!
HARDLY, PAL... LET'S SEE WHAT HE'S GOT TO SAY!
PLEASE DON'T BE ALARMED, GENTLEMEN!
ALL THE APPARATUS SURROUNDING YOU ONLY MEANS YOU NOW STAND IN THE HEART OF MY LABORATORY!
FOR HERE, ON THIS ISLAND, LIES THE SALVATION OF LIFE ON EARTH!
ALL LIFE... NOW DOOMED BY MESATON DEATH... BY HUMAN GREED!
BUT HOW ABOUT THE VOLCANO?
SIMPLY AN ASTRAL PROJECTION OF AN ACTIVE ONE!
9

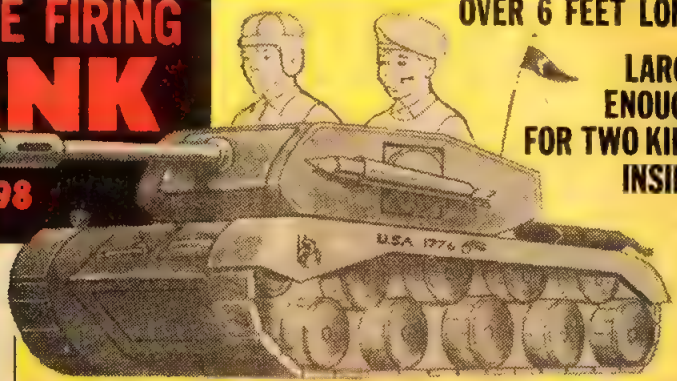
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MISSILE FIRING TANK

ONLY $6.98

OVER 6 FEET LONG

LARGE ENOUGH FOR TWO KIDS INSIDE



FEATURES

- ★ Elevating 90mm Cannon
- ★ Rocket Launchers
- ★ Intercom System
- ★ Real Periscope
- ★ Revolving Turret
- ★ Rockets That Fire
- ★ Range Finder Sights
- ★ 2 Way Radio Control
- ★ Whip Antenna and Flag

It's Mobile—Pilot Gunner gets INSIDE—Guns Swivel—Turret Turns.

Imagine your thrill when you get inside this authentic replica of the mighty "General Sherman" Tank and charge forward to adventure. This six foot hunk of equipment is so realistic with its mighty cannon and rocket launchers, swiveling machine gun, simulated treads, and other authentic tank features that it's bound to bring shouts of delight from any young warrior. And when you and a pal get right down into the fully equipped control room and close the cockpit cover—you can bet you are using your tremendous fire power to devastate every imaginary enemy in your path. Sturdily constructed of 200# test fibreboard for long periods of fun, it's bound to bring more thrills and adventure than you have ever known from a toy. So don't delay! Act now. Only $6.98. Because of its gigantic size we are forced to ask for an additional 75¢ shipping charges.

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"GENTLEMEN...YEARS AGO, I DISCOVERED THAT LIFE AS WE KNOW IT TODAY EVOLVED FROM *INTERNUCLEAR SPACE!* WHEN I REVEALED THIS TO MY COLLEAGUES, I WAS *RIDICULED*...REBUFFED FOR THEORIZING THAT EVERY *ATOM* WAS A SUB-MINIATURE SOLAR SYSTEM IN ITSELF...!"

"UNABLE TO CONTINUE MY EXPERIMENTS, I CAME TO VALHALLA AND DEVELOPED AN *EVOLUTION PROCESS* ...WHAT HAD THUS TAKEN CENTURIES, NOW TOOK ONLY *SECONDS*... WORLDS EVOLVED FROM A *SINGLE* DROP OF WATER..."

"THE *EVOLUTIONIZER* PRODUCED HUNDREDS OF *LIFE FORMS* FROM THE *MICROCOSM*, MANY THAT ARE COMPLETELY ALIEN BY EARTH STANDARDS..!"

"STILL OTHERS, THAT ARE *NOT UNLIKE* THOSE OF PRE-HISTORIC EARTH...THE DIRECT ANTECEDENTS OF *MAN!* ALL PRODUCED FROM A SINGLE *PROTEIN* MOLECULE...THE BUILDING BLOCK OF ALL LIFE...!"

"TAKING INFINITE CARE, I HAVE *PAIRED OFF* THESE NEW LIFE FORMS AND AM *BEAMING* THEM INTO SPACE ABOARD MY *AUTOMATED REBIRTH COLONIZER!* IT WAS THIS BEAM YOUR PLANE INTERSECTED..."

UNBELIEVABLE! YA *GOTTA* COME BACK WITH US! THINGS AIN'T LIKE THEY USED TO BE! YOU'LL HAVE THE *WORLD* AT YER FEET! HOW *ABOUT* IT?

CONSIDER A MOMENT, FURY! HONEY IN THE MOUTH IS SOMETIMES POISON IN THE HEART!

I AM, INDEED SORRY, GENTLEMEN, BUT *OTHER PLANS* PREVENT ME FROM LEAVING!

THE *SAME* PLANS WHICH MUST KEEP *US ALL* ON THIS ISLAND...

UNTIL THE *NOONTIDE* OF THIS LIFE IS *GONE!*

I DON'T GET IT, MISTER! YA *CAN'T* BE SAYIN' WHAT I *THINK* YER SAYIN'!

INDEED? THEN ALLOW ME TO BE MORE *SPECIFIC!*

"WHEN MY *A.R.C.* IS FILLED TO CAPACITY...THE SECOND PHASE OF REESTABLISHMENT WILL *BEGIN!* ONCE IN ORBIT, THE CRAFT WILL ASSAIL THE WORLD WITH AN ALL-CONSUMING *RAIN* OF RADIOACTIVE *FIRE*...FOR A PERIOD OF *FORTY DAYS* AND *FORTY NIGHTS!*"

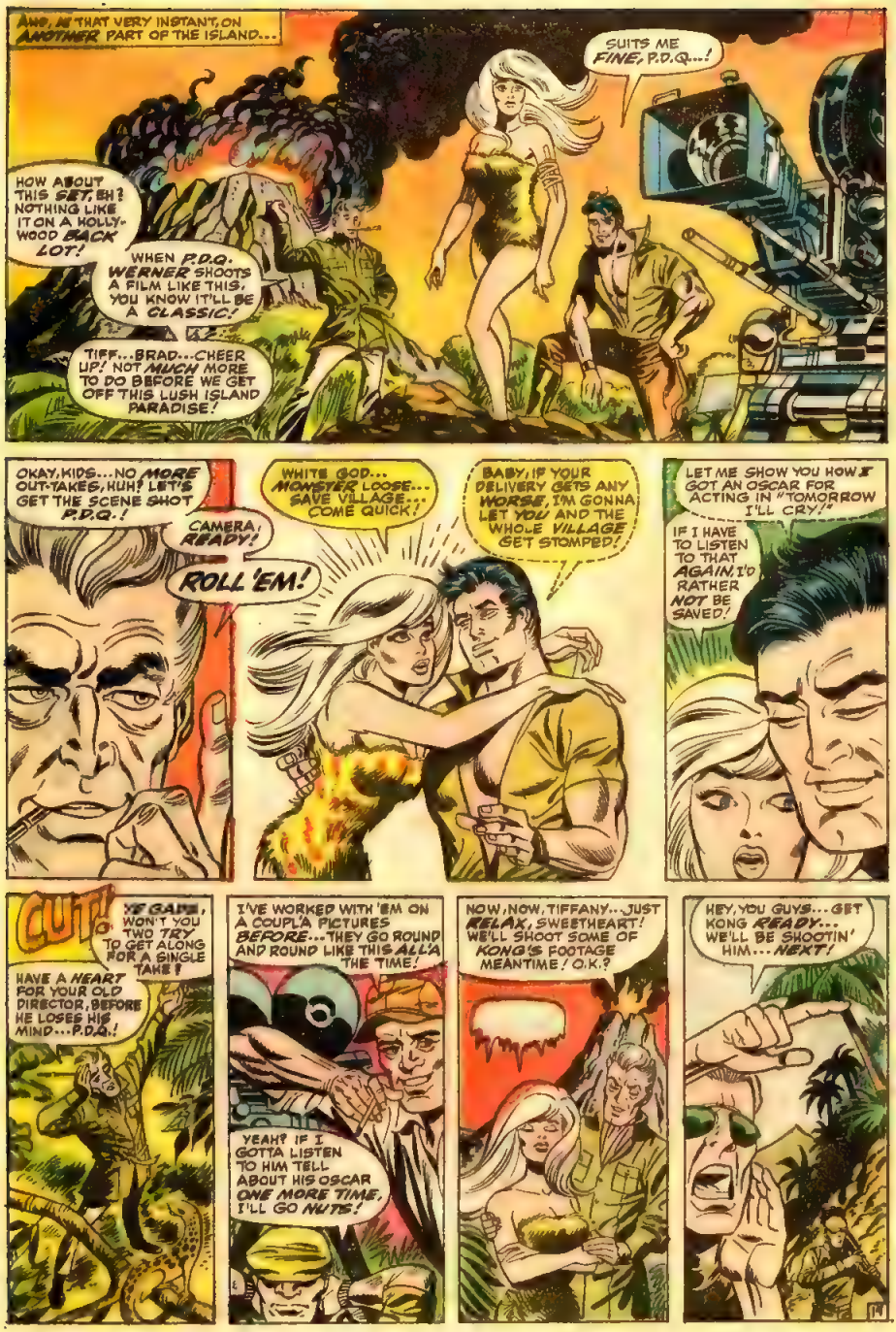
ARE YA TRYIN' TA SAY THAT *EVERY* NATION ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH WILL BE... *WIPED* OUT?

"PRECISELY...BUT MANKIND IS *ALREADY* HELL-BENT ON ITS OWN *DESTRUCTION!* AS MY *PARABLE OF DOOM* STRIKES FROM THE HEAVENS, SO WILL IT ALSO GIVE THIS PLANET A *SECOND CHANCE* FOR REGENERATION WITH ITS *PAYLOAD* OF NEW LIFE!"

YOU SEE, EXACTLY ONE *CENTURY* AFTERWARD, THE A.R.C. WILL LAND...ON AN EARTH RESEMBLING A *GARDEN OF EDEN!*

ALL OF US WILL REMAIN HERE UNTIL THE END... OR PERHAPS I SHOULD CALL IT... THE BEGINNING!
THE BEGINNING OF AN EARTH WITHOUT THE THREAT OF MASS MURDER, INTIMIDATION, FEAR!
HEY, HOLD IT! I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE... DR. NOAH BLACK, NOBEL PRIZE WINNER IN THE 30'S! YOU'D DISAPPEARED!
NO, THAT CAN'T BE... YOU'D BE AN OLD MAN BY NOW!
YES, I ONCE WAS NOAH BLACK, WHO WAS CENSURED FOR HIS IDEAS, BUT... CENTURIUS IS ANOTHER MAN COMPLETELY--
ANSWERING TO NO ONE... AND SOON YOU SHALL WITNESS THE LABORS OF CENTURIUS BEAR THE FRUIT OF SALVATION UPON THIS WORLD!
NO MAN HAS THE RIGHT TO SET HIMSELF UP AS A GOD!
A MAN MUST DO THE THINGS HE THINKS BEST!
AND NOW, GENTLEMEN, I MUST ATTEND TO OTHER MATTERS! I SEE ON THE 7-VIEWER WE HAVE MORE VISITORS ON THE ISLAND!
BUT IT SEEMS AS THOUGH MY ATTENTION WILL NOT BE NEEDED THERE!
EVEN NOW, THEY TRAVEL ALONG THE CRYSTAL LAKE... TOWARD THE POOL OF LOST SOULS!
THEY SHALL NEVER RETURN!
FURY, WE MUST STOP THIS INSANITY... HIS PLAN CANNOT CONTINUE!
IT MATTERS LITTLE IF WORLD DESTRUCTION COMES BY THE HAND OF SAMARITANS OR SAVAGES!
STILL, WHAT IS ONE TO DO AGAINST SUCH ODDS?
THAT WHICH WE THINK IS BEST, ALSO!
IT IS SAID THAT THE SMALLEST OF FLEAS CAN CAUSE DISCOMFORT TO THE GREATEST OF DOGS!
RIGHT, PAL! IN YER OWN CORNY WAY, YA SAID A MOUTHFUL!
I'LL TAKE THE BALL! SEE IF YA CAN HOLD 'EM OFF 'TIL I CAN GET OUTTA HERE!
WOK!
GOTTA TRY'N FIND OUT WHO ELSE IS ON THE ISLAND! MAYBE TOGETHER WE CAN DO SOMETHIN'!
OR IT'S GONNA BE TOO BAD FOR THE WHOLE WORLD!
KERASH!

THEN, THE INDESTRUCTIBLE AGENT OF SHIELD CRASHES THRU A WALL LENS OF THE LOFTY EXPERIMENTAL CHAMBER AND PLUNGES LIKE A BIRD WITHOUT WINGS INTO THE WORLD OF CENTURIUS A WORLD OF AWAKENING LIFE WHERE A THOUSAND DEATHS WAIT SURROUNDED BY A COLOSSEUM OF MACHINERY HUMMING WITH IMMORTABLE POWER, BUILT INTO THE VERY WALLS OF THE VOLCANO ITSELF LYING IN SPELLBINDING CONTRAST TO A WORLD THAT CEASED TO EXIST A MILLION YEARS AGO LIKE AN ISLAND THAT GOD FORGOT...


AND, AT THAT VERY INSTANT, ON ANOTHER PART OF THE ISLAND...
SUITS ME FINE, P.D.Q...!
HOW ABOUT THIS SET, EH? NOTHING LIKE IT ON A HOLLYWOOD BACK LOT!
WHEN P.D.Q. WERNER SHOOTS A FILM LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW IT'LL BE A CLASSIC!
TIFF...BRAD...CHEER UP! NOT MUCH MORE TO DO BEFORE WE GET OFF THIS LUSH ISLAND PARADISE!
OKAY, KIDS...NO MORE OUT-TAKES, HUH! LET'S GET THE SCENE SHOT P.D.Q.!
CAMERA READY!
ROLL 'EM!
WHITE GOD... MONSTER LOOSE... SAVE VILLAGE... COME QUICK!
BABY, IF YOUR DELIVERY GETS ANY WORSE, I'M GONNA LET YOU AND THE WHOLE VILLAGE GET STOMPED!
LET ME SHOW YOU HOW I GOT AN OSCAR FOR ACTING IN "TOMORROW I'LL CRY!"
IF I HAVE TO LISTEN TO THAT AGAIN, I'D RATHER NOT BE SAVED!
CUT!
IF GAIL, WON'T YOU TWO TRY TO GET ALONG FOR A SINGLE TAKE?
HAVE A HEART FOR YOUR OLD DIRECTOR, BEFORE HE LOSES HIS MIND...P.D.Q.!
I'VE WORKED WITH 'EM ON A COUPL'A PICTURES BEFORE...THEY GO ROUND AND ROUND LIKE THIS ALL'A THE TIME!
YEAH? IF I GOTTA LISTEN TO HIM TELL ABOUT HIS OSCAR ONE MORE TIME, I'LL GO NUTS!
NOW, NOW, TIFFANY...JUST RELAX, SWEETHEART! WE'LL SHOOT SOME OF KONG'S FOOTAGE MEANTIME! O.K.?
HEY, YOU GUYS...GET KONG READY... WE'LL BE SHOOTIN' HIM...NEXT!

MEANWHILE...
WHEW! ...HADN'T BEEN FOR... THIS... LAKE... I'D BE... WASTED...
DIVE... TAKIN' ME TOO DEEP... GOTTA SURFACE...
RAILCAR ...JUST WHAT I ...NEED...
MINUTES LATER, THE INTREPID AGENT BOARDS THE ELEVATED VEHICLE... LITTLE SUSPECTING THE HULKING MENACE SEVERAL MILES DOWN THE TRACK...
RRRR
AAKK!
...UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE... UNTIL THE TWILIGHT BEAST SHAKES HIM FROM THE TENUOUS PERCH...
...AND INTO A POOL OF TEPID QUICKSAND...
UNNGHH!
CAN'T MOVE...! SLIME... TRAPPIN' ME ...SUCKIN' ME UNDER!
AN' IF IT DON'T GET ME... THAT MONSTER WILL!
15.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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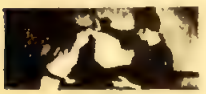

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PROBLEM 5
Your opponent has a gun at your back, just above your waist. Before he kills you, you must ____

PROBLEM 12
You ____

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SUDDENLY...
WHOEVER HE IS...THAT GUY'S NOT GOIN' UNDER IF BRAD CARTER CAN HELP IT!
DO YOU WANT TO GET YOURSELF KILLED, HERO?
BABY, HAVEN'T YOU EVER SEEN ME IN "FORBIDDEN JUNGLE"?
OH, PLEASE! NOT NOW!
SMOKE CHARGES
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE DOING OUT THERE, PAL...BUT LUCKY FOR YOU I HAPPENED TO BE AROUND!
IS...IS HE ALL RIGHT?
SURE..SURE... HE'LL BE OKAY!
HEY, P.D.Q... I HOPE YOU GOT THAT ON FILM!
THANKS, FELLA! I OWE YOU MY LIFE!
AN' I'M GONNA RETURN THE FAVOR!
IT'S A LONG STORY AN' I AIN'T GOT TIME TA EXPLAIN!
WE'RE ALL DEAD UNLESS YA DO WHAT I SAY!
NOW JUST A MOMENT, YOUNG MAN ...WE HAVE A SCHEDULE TO KEEP, AND...
LISTEN, MISTER...WE GOTTA GET THE SAM HILL OUTTA HERE...AN' FAST! PAY ATTENTION OR YA WON'T LIVE TA SHOOT ANOTHER FRAME! UNDERSTAND?
I NEED YOUR CREW TO CREATE A DIVERSION! YOU GOT ANY WEAPONS AROUND?
FRIEND, I KNOW A CONVINCING PERFORMANCE WHEN I SEE ONE!
AND IF IT'S A DIVERSION YOU WANT, WE'VE JUST THE THING...

KONG!
...AND WITHIN THE HOUR, THE INVASION OF THE DAWN WORLD BEGINS, LED BY THE TOWERING ROBOT FIGURE OF A MONSTER APE... BATTLING AS THOUGH FOR HIS VERY LIFE, BATTLING LIKE THOSE WHOSE LIKENESS HE BEARS ONCE FOUGHT EONS AGO, STEEL AND SPRING AGAINST FANG AND CLAW... RE-ENACTING THE SAVAGE CONFLICT OF LIFE AND DEATH AS IT OCCURRED CENTURIES BEFORE MAN WAS TO STAND UPON TWO FEET IN THE PRIMORDIAL WILDERNESS... AND, AS THE ISLAND ITSELF TREMBLES WITH PRIMEVAL ANGER, THE SMALL BAND OF MOVIEMAKERS HURL THEMSELVES INTO THE PREHISTORIC ONSLAUGHT, FIGHTING WITH SMALL ARMS, SMOKE GRENADES, FLARES, USING ANY WEAPON HANDY AS THE TALL STRANGER CALLED FURY HAD PLANNED... TAKING UP THE BATTLE CRY FOR MANKIND... PRAYING SILENTLY IT IS NOT YET TOO LATE...
17

AND, BACK IN THE VOLCANIC STRONGHOLD OF CENTURIUS..
THEY MUST BE STOPPED... BEFORE THEY ENDANGER MY OPERATION...
I SHOULD NOT HAVE OFFERED MY HOSPITALITY SO GENEROUSLY TO THE INTRUDERS!
BRING ME THE LAND MINE ACTIVATOR!
HURRY! IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO HAVE THEM DIE THIS WAY!
BUT NOW THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
WHAT IS TO BE DONE... MUST BE DONE!
I REGRET TAKING THIS STEP, FOR IT MAY DAMAGE VALHALLA QUITE SEVERELY ...YET I MUST!
BRING THE DETONATION CONTROL CLOSER!
TOK!
YOU! I THOUGHT THAT FALL... NO MATTER! THIS TIME THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPE!
LOOK, MISTER... I'M BEGGIN' YA... DON'T DO IT! FORGET THIS MAD IDEA... NO MAN CAN MAKE A DECISION LIKE...
ENOUGH... THIS STUN-DISC WILL SILENCE YOU... ONCE AND FOR ALL!
NOT WHILE A BREATH OF LIFE STILL REMAINS IN THIS ONE'S BODY!
HE SAID YOU WERE GONE, FURY!
CLOSE TO IT, PAL! BUT WHO WANTS HIS EPITAPH TA READ... HERE LIES FURY, WASTED BY A COUPLA DINOSAURS!
HANG ONTO HIM... 'TIL I CAN TAKE ALL THESE GUARDS OUT!
18

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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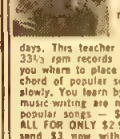

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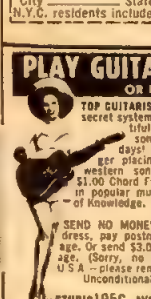

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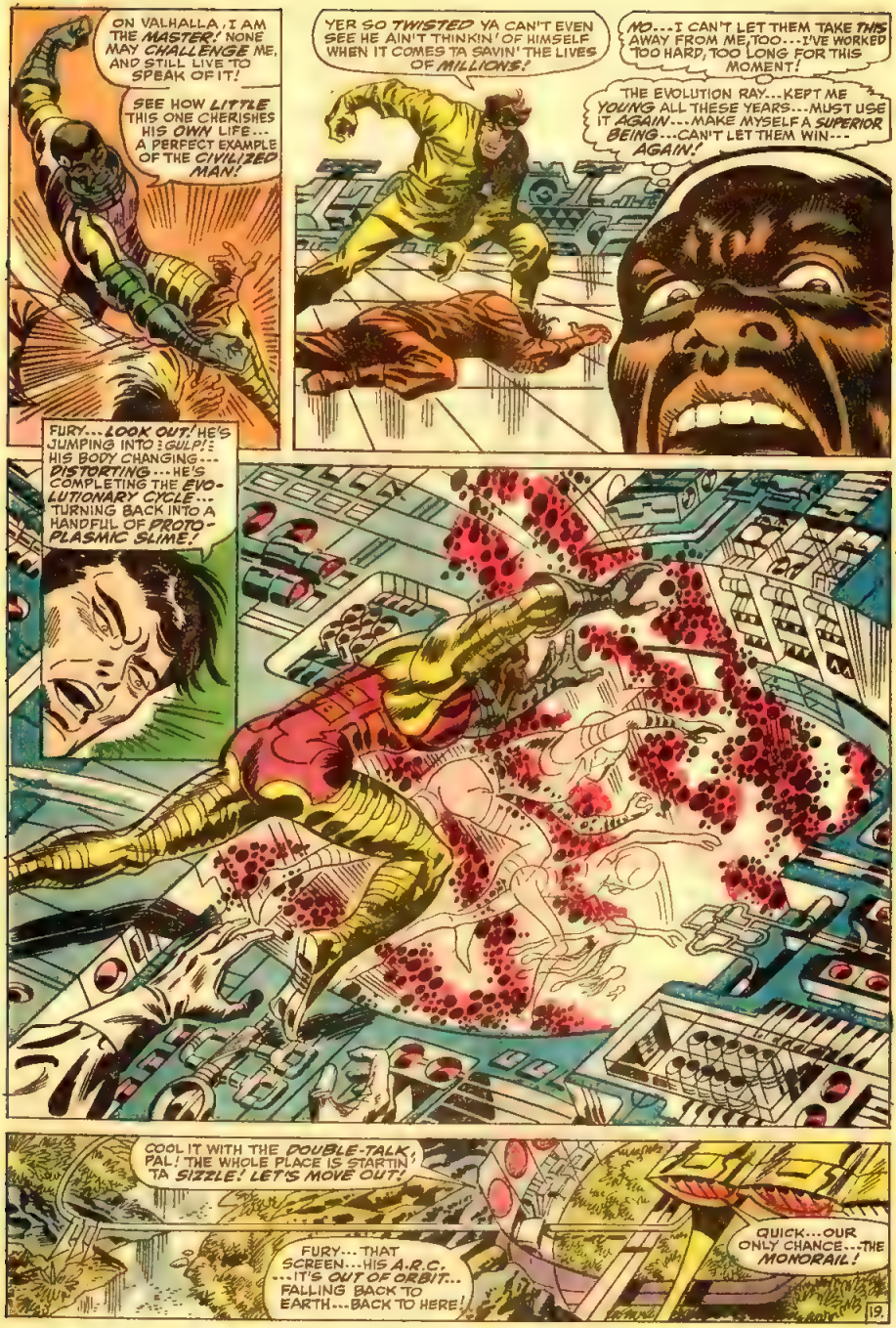
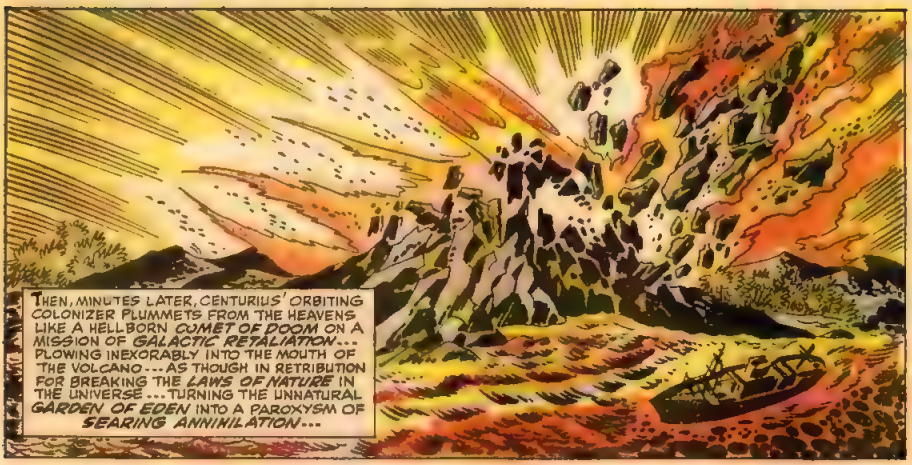
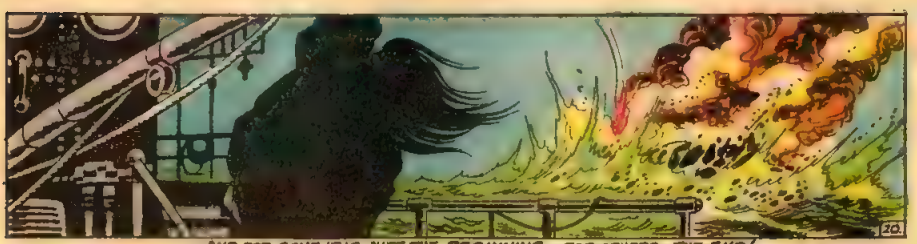

ON VALHALLA, I AM THE MASTER! NONE MAY CHALLENGE ME, AND STILL LIVE TO SPEAK OF IT!
SEE HOW LITTLE THIS ONE CHERISHES HIS OWN LIFE... A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE CIVILIZED MAN!
YER SO TWISTED YA CAN'T EVEN SEE HE AIN'T THINKIN' OF HIMSELF WHEN IT COMES TA SAVIN' THE LIVES OF MILLIONS!
NO...I CAN'T LET THEM TAKE THIS AWAY FROM ME, TOO...I'VE WORKED TOO HARD, TOO LONG FOR THIS MOMENT!
THE EVOLUTION RAY...KEPT ME YOUNG ALL THESE YEARS...MUST USE IT AGAIN...MAKE MYSELF A SUPERIOR BEING...CAN'T LET THEM WIN...AGAIN!
FURY...LOOK OUT! HE'S JUMPING INTO! GULP! HIS BODY CHANGING...DISTORTING...HE'S COMPLETING THE EVOLUTIONARY CYCLE...TURNING BACK INTO A HANDFUL OF PROTOPLASMIC SLIME!
COOL IT WITH THE DOUBLE-TALK, PAL! THE WHOLE PLACE IS STARTIN' TA SIZZLE! LET'S MOVE OUT!
FURY...THAT SCREEN...HIS A.R.C. ...IT'S OUT OF ORBIT... FALLING BACK TO EARTH...BACK TO HERE!
QUICK...OUR ONLY CHANCE...THE MONORAIL!


THEN, MINUTES LATER, CENTURIUS' ORBITING COLONIZER PLUMMETS FROM THE HEAVENS LIKE A HELLBORN COMET OF DOOM ON A MISSION OF GALACTIC RETALIATION... PLOWING INEXORABLY INTO THE MOUTH OF THE VOLCANO...AS THOUGH IN RETRIBUTION FOR BREAKING THE LAWS OF NATURE IN THE UNIVERSE...TURNING THE UNNATURAL GARDEN OF EDEN INTO A PAROXYSM OF SEARING ANNIHILATION...

HEY...THOUGHT WE'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN... FACT IS, WE ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK OUR-SELVES!
TOO BAD...ABOUT YER PICTURE, THAT IS! NUTHIN' WE COULD DO ABOUT IT THOUGH!
INDEED! THE "RETURN OF KONG" WILL BE A SENSATION WITH THE FOOTAGE I SHOT DURING THE FIGHTING! NOW I HAVE THIS IDEA, SEE...LIZ AND RICHARD ARE CAVE PEOPLE, AND...
YEAH! YEAH! GOT A CIGAR?
SOME GUY, HUH? ALLOW ME TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON GETTING THAT ORBITING DEVICE TO HIT THE ISLAND!
WADDAYA MEAN ME? I THOUGHT YOU DID IT! HMMM! GUESS THAT'S SOMETHING WE JUST CAN'T EXPLAIN!
LET'S JUST SAY SOME GREATER FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE HANDLED IT HIS OWN WAY!
TIFF! HEY! HOLD IT A SECOND!
WHY, BRAD? WHY SHOULD I? IT'S YOUR SHOW!
TIFF! THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU...WILL YOU LISTEN?
ANOTHER OSCAR?
NOT THIS TIME...SOME DREAMS...DREAMS I NEVER TOLD ANYONE!

THEN, DAY'S NIGHTMARE WAS OVER, AS THE SEA CLAIMED YET ANOTHER MYSTERY FOR ITS DARK AND UNFATHOMABLE DEPTHS...



...AND FOR SOME IT IS JUST THE BEGINNING...FOR OTHERS...THE END!

NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...

THE SECOND GOLDEN AGE OF MARVEL IS HERE!

(And You Didn't Even Bake A Cake!)

ITEM! To give you an idea how far in advance we have to write these pithy pages, it's the day after Christmas, 1967, at this very moment as we write these lines . . . but you'll probably be reading this sometime in April, 1968! And you wonder why we have trouble remembering things! Anyway, onward —

ITEM! Well, we did it! In the space of a few short months, we've given the HULK, CAPTAIN AMERICA, IRON MAN, SUB-MARINER, SHIELD, and DR. STRANGE their own feature-length magazines — and each and every one is on sale MONTHLY. But, if you expect us to give you a chance to catch your breath, forget it! Here come the latest developments in Marvel's march to a nervous breakdown —

ITEM! From now on, MARVEL SUPERHEROES, our big, brawny 25¢ bi-monthly block-buster, will feature a different super-hero star each ish. And, if your letters are as enthusiastic as we expect them to be, we'll eventually award a complete monthly mag to our costumed cavorters! The first sensational superstar to be so featured — on sale right now — is none other than the miraculous MEDUSA, the gorgeous long-haired siren of the incomparable INHUMANS! Drawn by Genial Gene Colan, we promise you the fantasy thrill of the month, replete with dazzling guest stars and a zillion surprises! And that's only the beginning—!

ITEM! One of our greatest new mags is such a howlin' success that we're gonna print it every two months from now on in a king-sized 25¢ edition! The first of these new special-size editions goes on sale next month — but, till then, see if you can guess which title it is! ALSO — we're introducing a second 25-center next month, but it'll be a brand-new title! (A favorite super-hero guest star of yours, but he's never had his own mag before!) There, that'll give you something to think about while you're counting your no-prizes!

ITEM! We're just throwing this little tidbit in for kicks. Didja know that MILLIE THE MODEL, the mag we always kid about and poke fun at, has become one of the best-selling titles on our world-famous list? It's a fact! The only explanation we can think of is that there must be more frantic ones than we ever suspected who like nutty stories about a gorgeous blonde model, featuring the corniest gags ol' Smiley can write! And how about the RAWHIDE KID? We had almost forgotten that we still publish our last remaining wild-'n-wooly Western until we saw Merry Marty Goodman reading the sales reports with a big grin, and we realized that every "They went thataway" fan in the world must be buying out all the copies! So, thanks to all you literature-lovers for proving once again that the more we know, the less we know!

ITEM! And now, the BIG one! The announcement you've been waiting for! Our precedent-shattering 35¢ SPIDER-MAN Spectacular is now on sale! It features the longest single super-hero thriller ever published in a comics-mag — an actual FIFTY-TWO PAGE mystery-action epic! PLUS — a feature-length ORIGIN OF SPIDER-MAN, completely rewritten and redrawn for this landmark issue! Every wondrous word is from the enchanted pen of our light hearted leader, Stan the Man — while Jazzy Johnny Romita ramrodded the 52-pager's artwork, aided by our newest Bullpen great — Jim (Madman) Mooney! As for the Origin of Spidey, wait'll you see how Larrupin' Larry Lieber breathed new life into that now-classic chronicle. But, the best part of it is the mag itself. Although in comic-book format it ISN'T a comic-book! It's a real, glitzy, status-drenched, slick paper publication! You'll have to look for it amongst the so-called "better" mags zines at your newsstand — and we promise you this — it'll be worth the trouble! And now, a word of advice — after you've bought it, don't trade it, lend it, or lose it! It's destined to become a highly-prized collectors' item the minute it's all sold out — which'll be most any second now! So don't just stand there, pilgrim — GET IT! You know how we hate to see a grown man cry!

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

Now that the news is out about our jumbo-sized Spidey mag, everybody's been asking what'll happen to our web-slinger's regular 12¢ bestseller! The answer is — nothing! It's still being published each and every month, the same as always. The new 35¢ thriller is an ADDITIONAL mag, not a replacement! And, while we're on the subject, I've gotta tell you this. There have been very few individual mags which I've personally recommended to you — (mostly because I think they're ALL kinda good) — but this time I'm going way out on a limb. If you buy no other Marvel mag this month, I urge you to latch onto the new SPIDER-MAN Spectacular! It's far more than just another gimmick — it represents an entirely new concept in superhero presentation! It represents possibly Marvel's finest achievement to date — and it contains a mind staggering hint of things yet to come! This month will go down in history as the month of another new Marvel milestone — and you'll be a part of it! But now, it's time to cut out — before you think we're trying to sell you something! Pax et justitia! —*Smiley.*

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN Spectacular #1: This is it! Possibly the greatest super-hero mag Marvel has ever produced. Featuring a 52-page shocker entitled "Lo, This Monster!", plus the "Origin of Spidey". A bargain at twice the price — but not for the timid!

NOT BRAND ECHH #8: Run for the hills, gang — he's back! None other than feeble Forbush-Man has returned, to tackle almost every superhero in sight! It's the whackiest, wildest adventure into hysteria you've ever howled at! And wait'll you see who poor Forbie has to fight!

FANTASTIC FOUR #76: Searching for the Silver Surfer, the fabulous FF take the most incredible journey ever recorded — knowing that every second brings the world closer to its doom — at the hands of Galactus!

SPIDER-MAN #62: You never expected it to happen! In fact, WE never expected it to happen! But Spidey has the fight of his life — against Medusa! And adventuredom will never be the same again!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #15, Starring MEDUSA!: Having whetted your appetite for the lady with the living hair in SPIDER-MAN, we now present the exciting Inhuman in her own full-length thriller! She, and Gene the Dean's artwork, have never been wilder!

AVENGERS #53: Our ever lovin' assemblers — the extraordinary X-Men — even the baneful Brotherhood of Evil Mutants! And wait'll you dig who finally ends up the howlin' hero in our mind-boggling climax! Sheesh!

X-MEN #45: This ish is the lead-in to AVENGERS #53 — but what a lead-in! You'll see Cyclops battling it out with the one and only Quicksilver — while the lives of his fellow X-Men hang in the balance!

DAREDEVIL #41: It had to happen! You are about to witness "The Death of Mike Murdock!" But, what happens to Matt Murdock? And how does Daredevil battle the Exterminator and his Unholy Three? Well, why not see for yourself?

MIGHTY THOR #153: If you've been wondering what happened to Dr. Don Blake, this is the yarn for you. But maybe we shouldn't tell you that Loki finally has the upper hand!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #103: It's like a nightmare! The girl Cap loves, a prisoner of the deadly Red Skull! And, when he finally saves her, our hero has signed his own death warrant!

INCREDIBLE HULK #105: They call our power-packed villain the Missing Link — and, when you see how he tears into ol' Green Skin, you'll see why the Incredible One wishes he had stayed missing! It's a blast!

IRON MAN #3: Who said we'd forgotten all about Shellhead's pal, Happy Hogan? Not your brain-bustin' Bullpen! But, along with Hap, we've also brought back his evil alter ego . . . the awesomely powerful Freak! Hooo boy!

SUB-MARINER #3: Namor and the titanic Triton — chained together as unwilling allies! The pernicious Plant Man! The walking monstrosity they call the Leviathan! Put them all together, and they spell action!

MARVEL'S SPACE-BORN SUPERHERO! CAPTAIN MARVEL #3: It's a fight to the finish between Mar-Vell and the startlingly sinister Super Skrull! What's more, we tossed in a minor nuclear holocaust or two — just to keep things hopping!

DR. STRANGE #170: For years, you've demanded it! And now, it's here — the return of the reprehensible Nightmare, in the mystically magnificent tale we couldn't resist calling — "To Dream . . . Perchance to Die!"

SGT. FURY #55: Pam Hawley lives — or does she? With those wondrous words ringing in your shell-shocked ears, you are destined to share with our hard-bitten Howler ramrod one of the most startling war-mag sagas of all!

CAPT. SAVAGE #3: Still on sale — if you're lucky! Savage and his Japanese enemy must combine forces to battle for survival on the island fortress of Hydra! A guts-and-glory epic you won't forget!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #15: The FF, Iron Man, Doctor Strange, and the Hulk — all in one incredible issue! Just goes to prove that only Marvel has the mags you never get tired of — Marvel after Marvel!

MARVEL TALES #15: Spidey — Thor — the Human Torch — and Marvel Boy! Four of the best reasons yet for signing up for the duration of the Marvel Age of Comics! (And, it may just last forever!)

MAGIC WORLD OF SURPRISES & MYSTERY

AMERICAN CIRCLE CORP., Dept. M-4 Box 535, Westbury, N.Y. 11590

SUPER SMOKE BOMB. Light one in an ash tray. Creates huge cloud of white smoke. Sensational surprise effect. Used for T.V., movies, etc.

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Film 6 rolls $1.00

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EXPLODING FOUNTAIN PEN. Looks like a regular fountain pen. But when they start to write... Look out! It goes off with a bang like a bang pistol! Can be used over and over. Harmless.

☐ No. 119 75¢ Each

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DON'T YIELD, WRITE S.H.I.E.L.D.

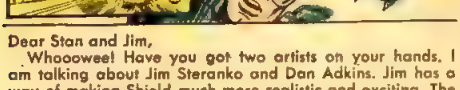
c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE., N.Y., N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and Jim,

I recently purchased a copy of STRANGE TALES #167. I'd like to say a few things about Colonel Fury and his intrepid organization. Fury, the administrator, cannot be Fury the field agent. An administrator of an organization the size and complexity of Shield simply would have too much to do. This administrator would have duties similar to those of the President (I know he has time for an occasional barbecue; I'll get to that). But these duties would be those of a President at war, and a wartime President can't drop everything and personally fight. Fury's loner missions are in my mind comparable to parachuting General Westmoreland into Hanoi to have him capture Ho Chi Minh. I believe an administrator is what he is because he is capable of making speedy decisions based on his past experience. Fury should be taken out of active service, and the control of Shield should be given to a committee consisting of Fury and two or three professional administrators. Fury, of course, would have the final word, but this council would keep Shield operating while Fury is trying to save the world.

Michael Holt, 8403 Zell Lane
Richmond, Va. 23229

Well, Mike, we showed your letter to Fury and all he said was, "My fellow Americans, it is with a heavy heart and an empty wallet that I come to you today! How's 'bout loanin' me a buck?" *Sheesh!*



Dear Stan and Jim,

Whoooweel Have you got two artists on your hands. I am talking about Jim Steranko and Dan Adkins. Jim has a way of making Shield much more realistic and exciting. The way those coloring effects bring results is really something to talk about! I stared at every single page for about ten minutes. I also want to congratulate Jim on the effect he got on the cover with Fury and the rest against the American flag in the background symbolizing the peace and liberty that Shield is fighting for. Then we have Dr. Strange with the revival of the Ancient One. The way Dan drew that mystic world was so realistical, I thought that I was right alongside Dr. Strange fighting Yandroth. Why don't you have Jim and Dan draw some other strips besides Shield and Dr. Strange? Until Fury marries Countess Valentina Allegra de Fountaine (does she look good in those new duds of hers!), I say long live Forbush . . . er . . . excuse me — I meant long live Marvel!

William DeLaTorre, 504 W. 166 St. (2R)
New York, N. Y. 10032

We'd love to give Jim and Dan a couple of new strips, Bill, but now each of them has a book all to himself —twice as much as they used to do! We always figured if they ran out of work, we'd use 'em as a pair of bookends! 'Till then, don't Bield . . . Yack Shield . . . er, no . . . Don't Shield . . . Sack Yield! Oh well — you know what we're driving at, frantic one!

Dear Stan and Jim,

I have been collecting Marvel Comics for some time now, and I figure that it's time I wrote and expressed my personal feeling on your magazines. First off, in your Shield series, don't you think that Nick Fury is a bit too unrealistic? For instance, when you see him come face to face with ten hoodlums, all of whom are armed to the teeth, first he will stare, crack some corny joke, and then go crashing into them with the fury of a bulldozer, and five minutes later, he's the only one left standing. It looks kind of funny, you know. Also, I think your letters are a bit too goody-good. Most of the letters you print are all praising you for your fine work and fabulous comics. If you would print more letters that offer honest criticism, your letters pages would be a lot better, and you might even get some very constructive ideas.

Jack MacDonald, 275 Avalon Rd
Rosemere, Quebec, Canada

Aw, c'mon, Jackie boy! Every true believer knows we print any kind of letter, whether it contains criticism or compliments as long as it's interesting . . . and believe us, we value every opinion! As for Fury's still leaving one hood standing, he must have been feeling charitable! You know how soft-hearted our lovable leader of Shield is!

Dear Stan and Jim,

By putting Jim Steranko in charge of Agent of Shield, you have turned what was at one time Marvel's worst strip into one of the most unique and brilliant graphic stories (a notch above the term "comic strip") ever produced. After Kirby and Severin left the strip, they were followed by a host of artists ranging in caliber from fair to poor. I myself saw little hope for Shield under such treatment. However, #151 was like a breath of fresh air, for that was the issue in which the titanic talents of Jim Steranko were first revealed to Marveldom. And in each succeeding issue, Jim grows even bolder, using experimental techniques no other artist would dare attempt. I'm looking forward to the psychedelic art in the next issue! Stan, you really proved you earned that Alley Award for "Best Editor" when you assigned Agent of Shield to Steranko. Ignoring your earlier efforts to make Shield down-to-earth and realistic, you surprised everybody by making a complete turnabout, transforming it into the most unlikely, impossible, far-fetched strip around and succeeding beyond anyone's hopes! I realize that I am only reiterating what others before me have said far more eloquently, but after fifteen glorious issues of Shield by Steranko, I felt obliged to compliment you on your uncannily good judgment in retaining Steranko on the strip. So until Steranko forgets how to draw, make mine Marvel — which means I'll be with you for quite a while!

Gordon Flagg, Jr., 1906 Clairmont Terr. NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30329

Smilin' Stan says thanks for your compliments about his judgment . . . he's been a little shaky about it ever since he invested in an *Edsel*! And, as for the strip, it's no wonder it looks the way it does, 'cause Steranko is about the most unlikely, impossible, and far-fetched guy we know! Anyway, we doubt if he'll ever forget to draw . . . unless he forgets how to eat.

Now hear this! Please keep all letters no longer than ONE PAGE! Have mercy, mellow ones!

Dear Stan and Jim,

All I can say is that through masters of the imaginary art like Jim Steranko that Marvel has risen far above the ranks of mediocrity which so often soils the title "comic book". You have taken a term meaning a depthless, shallow, escape fiction work and changed it into a word which stands for imagination unleashed. Through such works as Shield, F.F., and Thor, you have brought up ideas which before have been discreetly ignored by comic book writers. I salute you. Through Jim's twist plots, weird angle shots, offbeat coloring, and other devices, Shield has jumped to one of Marvel's foremost mags. Shield definitely deserves its own mag. Carry on, Marvel, for we are with you! We appreciate your obvious effort to bring us nothing but the finest, and appreciate even more your success at this. Know ye this — as long as adventure flickers in the heart of one last individual, Marvel shall ne'er be forgotten! Excelsior!

Steve Barnes, 2110 West View St.
Los Angeles, Cal.

You said it all, Steve! We're proud to be in the business, and we sincerely feel that comics are a genuine American art form . . . every story a piece of Americana! What we can't figure out is . . . who is this guy Excelsior you've been telling us about?

Dear Stan and Jim,

You're doing great! I just love Fury — he's Mike Hammer and James Bond, rolled into one man. He's got the modern feeling for the scene — he's making it, doing it, and being it. He's heroic in an age of anti-heroes. He's not establishment, and he's his own man. This is the super-cool, the new sociological role of the man who is his own establishment. The action is unbearably good, the drawing is exquisite, and the stories are superbly devious. But keep it modern, please. Women like Suwan simply don't exist. Maybe women of the late 19th century Ching Dynasty used terms like ancestral, honorable, celestial, humble and devoted, but not girls of the last 20 years. And bring back the little Miss Hydra, Laura Brown — Fury does need some young blood. The Contessa is too sophisticated to dress in slacks and a shell. Read *Vogue* or *Cosmopolitan* and learn what the expensive "nothing" dress is, and what a woman looks like when she wears one. The Contessa simply isn't a swinger type — don't dress her like an overgrown teenager. Keep the stories continued from issue to issue. I love being dangled and I love complex subplots. I'm sadistic, just like you — I love to see Fury de- and re-molecularized by an ultimate ultimate, and pounded by the Claw until insensate. I love his being frozen, and blacked out, and psychologically strained, and pulverized again. You must be doing it right because he's still alive, and that's all that matters.

Barbara Campbell, 5654 Drexel
Chicago, Ill.

We *agree* with you, Miss B, but it also matters to us that swingin' chicks like you keep reading Fury! As for the Contessa's wardrobe, Jim likes to keep her outfits sophisticated, stylish, and functional! But, don't be surprised at anything the valorous Val might turn up wearing — especially if jaunty Jim can figure a way to latch onto a free subscription to *Vogue*!

Dear Stan and Jim,

Omigosh, I can hardly believe it! That entire bit with the Yellow Claw, Jimmy Woo and all wasn't even for real? The last panel with Dr. Doom, practically blew my mind. It was about ten minutes before I realized just what had happened. In fact, it still seems too much. I'll say it again — Jim Steranko is the greatest innovator in comics today. Is there any chance that the real Claw and supporting characters will ever appear in any of your other mags? Or was even the original series a game of Doom's? If not, what happened to him? And where in this whole setup does Doom fit? He is appearing simultaneously in DAREDEVIL and F.F., so he can't have too much time for games right now. Yet it turns out he's been running this one for months. Is this Shield sequence concurrent with the Daredevil story that's been running for the past couple of months? Can't be! Is it before or after? I can see myself a few months from now trying to put things in some semblance of order. I still haven't straightened out the one you ran a couple of years ago with Hydra, AIM, and all those others in Captain America, Hulk, and Shield. Really confusing, that one was, what with Gabe Jones running around doing undercover work with one of them and all simultaneously operating to the confusion of readers. Maybe you should hire a full-time correlater to put out a supplement to your mags telling exactly who is doing what when, like J. R. R. Tolkien had at the end of *Lord of the Rings*. A calendar sort of affair with events placed in chronological order. It would make a lot of things easier, especially since some people actually care about the fact that they can't understand you. I could go on like this all day if I thought you wanted to listen. Final exams are happening for me right now, and I'm using this letter as an excuse to extend my break from studying. Well, if it weren't for your one page request, I probably would go on all day and flunk out! Well, thanks for putting out the best way to beat the monotony of all day studying ever devised. And especially thanks for saving me from myself by not letting me go over a page.

Harry G. Purvis, 2232 Wirth Pl.
New Orleans, La. 70115

Our pleasure, Harry! And if enough Marvelites demand to be told the story of the *real* Yellow Claw and his niece Suwan, you better believe you'll be seeing it right here! By the way, if anyone can put the adventures of Shield, AIM, Hydra and Doc Doom in order, a special delivery no-prize'll be waiting for 'em right here! 'Nuff said!

Dear Stan and Jim,

I've just finished issue #166 and I'd like to compliment you both, along with Joe Sinnott and Sam Rosen, on all the good work you've done. I have every one of your Marvel books ever since they first came out. My favorites are Shield, Dr. Strange, F.F., Avengers, X-Men, and Daredevil. I mostly like Nick Fury, Agent of SHIELD— there's never been a dull episode. Your stories on Hydra were great and now you've come up with the Yellow Claw. Please find a way to bring Suwan back to life and let's see more of Jimmy Woo. My other top favorite is the Fantastic Four. I really like the Silver Surfer. Maybe you could keep him around like the Black Panther or the Inhumans. I'm not a member of the M.M.M.S. yet but I'll join it as soon as possible. Thanks for reading my letter and good luck in the future.

Michael Hayes, 3412 W. 11th Ave.
Gary, Ind.

Thanks for writing the letter, Mike! We told Jim that Fury was your favorite and he said ". . . There's a guy with good taste!" And you can bet you'll be seeing more of the mysterious Jimmy Woo, especially since he's a Shield Agent now! (Or didn't ya know?)

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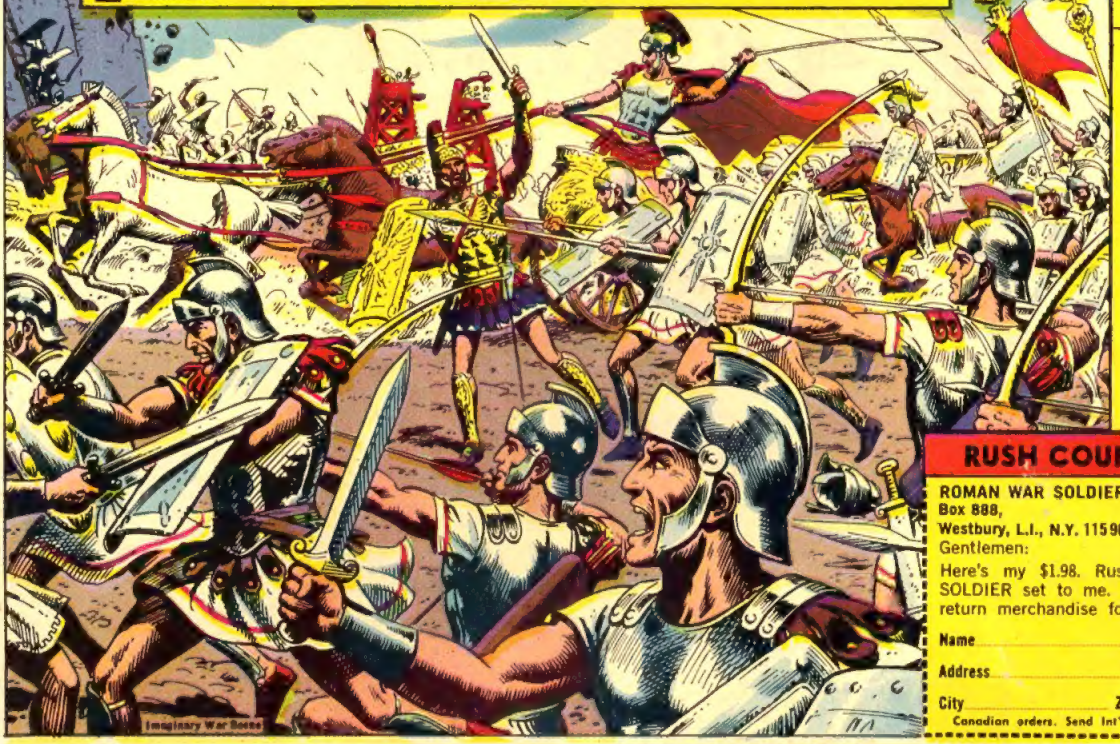

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